

PANIC WAS IMMINENT

Stock Market in Very Demoralized Condition.

ANNOUNCE TWO FAILURES

There Was General Closing Out of Collateral on Loans and Much Was Allowed to Go for What it Would Bring.

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK. Aug. 5.—The hour for closing of to-day's stock market was haled with relief by the highly strung members of the Exchange. The day was one of excitement and alarm, but the swing of the prices of securities was so rapid and comprehensive as to arouse grave fears of the consequences. The announcements of two failures were the only actual disaster to develop, and nothing more was a surprise. Soon the day's liquidation was supposed to be of collateral on the loans of the failed firms, although it was officially announced in one case that the firm had decided to write off the collateral from the market at its present condition. It was evident that very general closing out of collateral on loans was in progress, and the market was allowed to go for what it would bring.

At the demand for stocks is still exceedingly light, the natural result was a demoralization of that market, and the pressure grew more acute by the reactions of the market in which a package of the collateral in other loans. So far as the news of the day was concerned there was very slender basis for the sacrifice of securities beyond the unsympathetic comments of the market, and the consequent desire to convert it into ready money. This is the essence of demoralization in any market, and it had its natural result too. Expectations and demoralization were prevented at that time only by the most vigorous and determined support on the part of banking interests and market managers for various prominent stocks. The market was especially notable in the United States Steel stocks, and it succeeded in raising the price of the common a point and the preferred, is over last night's level, the support of these stocks being given by the fact that some of the developments which were feared from yesterday's meeting of directors did not occur.

As the weakness of these stocks was a point in the weakness of yesterday's market, the strong support accorded them this morning had a soothing effect on sentiment. The result was a pretty general recovery from the opening decline. There came in, however, the first failure of an important house with commitments in a variety of stocks. From that time until the close the liquidation was intermittently pursued, with only slight intervals of short covering. There was an eager rush to cover among the bears on the final dealings, and there were renewed breaks at other points, and the close was extremely nervous and exciting. It was very irregular, however, and the United States Steel stocks suffered comparatively small losses, but both the common and preferred and the sinking fund 5 per cent bond touched low record prices during the day.

Liquidation in Missouri Pacific was very violent, and it suffered an extreme loss of 6%. Much of the liquidation in this was attributed to the account of the suspended firms. It started down, however, referred to point with it. Erie was also very heavily sold, as the day progressed. The Pacifics and Grangers were under steady pressure during most of the day. The violent drop in the Cotton and Southern stocks, the Southern Railway stocks and the Virginia-Carolina Chemicals were associated with the failures. Some of the high-priced comparatives, such as steel works, Standard Oil, American Smelt Works, New York Air Brake, Pullman, Consolidated Gas, General Electric and Chicago and Eastern Illinois certificates from 56% points.

In addition to the above, there was nothing in the time money market to explain the pressure to retire loans.

Bonds were weak in sympathy with stocks. Total sales, par value, \$4,800,000. Under 5% bonds were all unchanged on the last call.

The total sales of stocks for the day were 1,024,300 shares.

MONEY AND EXCHANGE—CLOSE. Money on call steady at 283 per cent; closing, 294 per cent; time mor., firm; sixty days, 4 per cent; ninety days, 4% per cent; six months, 5% per cent; prime mercantile paper, 6%; prime banking paper, 6%; with actual business in bankers' bills at \$85.45 to \$85.50 for demand and at \$13.15 to \$14.30 for sixty day bills; posted rates, 4.84 and 4.86%; commercial bills, 4.83; silver, 53%; Mexican dollars, 62%. Government bonds steady; railroad bonds weak.

Stock Market Dispatch,

(Special to The Times-Dispatch)

NEW YORK. Aug. 5.—Continued and urgent liquidation characterized the stock market today. Further low records for the year were made in a large proportion of the stocks. The failure of a house whose name was first announced was not unexpected in view of the great decline in Chicago, in which it was largely interested. The failure announced in the last hour was apparently unimportant, but it did not allay the apprehensions that hung over the market all day. There was some buying for the long account by people who could either pay for their purchases or protect them by the time of maturity. The market closed for the short account, but this business was more of a scalping nature, as even the most persistent bears are cautious after such declines. Arbitrage houses traded on both sides, but not to an extent to influence the market either way. Call money has a shade dearer.

RICHMOND STOCK MARKET.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 6, 1903.

SALES. Virginia Cents—\$2,000 at 50%; \$8,000 at 50%.

Bank Stock—shares at 162%.

Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. preferred—10 shares at 90%.

Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. common—10 shares at 23%; 20 shares at 28%; 10 shares at 25%.

STATE SECURITIES: Bid Asked.

North Carolina 4%, C. 102 ...

W. S. New, C. and H. 80 ... 60

Virginia Cents—shares at 89% 89% 89%

RAILROAD BONDS:

A. L. R. R. Con. Tr. I's 92 ...

Pet. Class I. & R. Co. 1929 120 ...

A. L. Con. I. & R. Co. 1930 77 ... 78

E. A. L. Collateral Tr. Co. 1911-1912 100 ... 100

Western N. C. Co. 1914 110

RAILROAD STOCKS: Par.

Atlanta and Charlotte 100 ... 100

Norfolk and Western 100 ... 100

St. Louis and Ohio 100 ... 100

Seaboard Air Line 100 ... 100

Southern Railway 100 ... 100

Southern Railway Co. 1910-1914 100

First National 100 104 ...

PRODUCE MARKET.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—COTTON.—The spot market remained quiet, but steady; quotations unchanged.

The future market was steady at the opening, with prices 20¢ per pound above yesterday's opening, caused by a general upward tendency in the market, while also favorable.

These factors gave the whole market a quiet tone, and also shared of the advance of the opening. The spot prices below, however, reflected the same downward movement. The market continued to the close, when the last showed net losses of 8 cents on August 22.

Net losses of 8 cents on August 22.

On September 15 and 16, 15 points each on the other position.

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THOMAS BRANCH & CO.

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MUNICIPAL BONDS A SPECIALTY.

Correspondence invited.

Pet. Bank, and Insurance Co., 20 ... 74

Virginia Trust Company 100 ... 108

INSURANCE COMPANIES:

Virginia Fire and Marine 23 37 ...

MISCELLANEOUS:

American Locomotive, pfd. 81 ... 88

Va. Chem. Corp., p. c. 98 ... 98

Va. Carolina Chemical Co., 100 234 ... 234

BALTIMORE STOCK MARKET.

BALTIMORE, MD., Aug. 5.—COTTON MARKET.

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—The cotton market opened firm as an advance of 40¢ per pound in the higher cash and light bales support in the new position, but after advancing to a few cents or two of the active market turned toward the market, following the withdrawal of supporting orders and generally favorable weather reported over the cotton belt. After declining to a point, it moved very quiet, but again steady, making only a point or two first upward and then downward, as buying or selling orders entered the market, but showing little movement of feature until the close.

The day was very quiet, and very weak throughout, the market being inactive and very weak, ending with the former bull leader who was identified with the dead last spring.

The selling was caused by the unsettled conditions of affairs in Wall Street, and information received from the market.

Tobacco—Dark Fired Tobacco—(Reorderable)—Receipts liberal; market continues quiet.

Tobacco not in keeping order sell considerably lower, new bales, 10¢ per pound.

Flour—(Reorderable)—Receipts continue light, and market quiet, but steady.

FLOUR—Continues very quiet.

WHEAT—Receipts moderate, and market active.

CORN—Graded corn, steady, off trades very quiet.

OATS—Dark and lower.

OATS—Our quotations are for old hay; with more liberal receipts and light demand values are lower, lower grade and common, about 5¢ per bushel, and new hay, 10¢ per bushel, part of new hay arriving more or less heated.

GRAIN—Hay—(Reorderable)—Receipts continue light.

GRASS—(Reorderable)—Receipts continue light.